



The President's Daily Brief

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The Communists have launched their heaviest ground and mortar attack on Kompong Thom city since early June. The city was attacked from three directions ~~early this morning~~ ^{yesterday}, and the US embassy in Phnom Penh reports that most of the

city's main installations have fallen, despite Cambodian and South Vietnamese air support. Government defenders are calling for more air strikes, and for additional reinforcements.

The size of the enemy attacking force is unknown.

The Communists simultaneously attacked a government battalion at Skoun, at the junctions of Routes 6 and 7, between Kompong Thom and Kompong

Cham city. The embassy estimates Skoun will fall if its defenders do not receive air support. If Skoun the

Communists will have blocked overland access to Kompong Thom. ^{AND ALSO WILL} BE IN ^(BETTER) POSITION TO ATTACK KOMPONG CHAM.

Meanwhile, the government offensive to retake Kirirom

has halted, pending the arrival of five more battalions of reinforcements.

A government battalion south of Kirirom on Route 4, at Sre Khlong, fought a pitched battle with enemy forces ~~today~~ ^{yesterday}, and finally drove the Communists into

the surrounding forest. Some action reportedly is continuing.

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